

RESTRICTED

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SOURCE Borba, No 139, 1949.

CLAIMS PRIVATE COMMERCE ALMOST ELIMINATED

In a speech before the Second Congress of Labor Unions in Commercial Enterprises, Osman Karabegovic, Minister of Trade and Supply in the federal government, announced that at the end of 1948 only 1.4 percent of all retail trade in Yugoslavia was still in private hands, while 42 percent was handled by the state and 46 percent by cooperatives. The state sector accounted for 53.1 percent of the total turnover, cooperatives for 36.6 percent, and private enterprises for 1.1 percent plus.

According to official figures, in Hungary 25 percent of the wholesale and 80 percent of the retail trade was still in private hands in April 1949. In Poland 84 percent of the retail trade was in private hands in 1948. Of the 154,000 retail markets in Poland, 129,000 are privately owned.

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